

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

Taking storage devices 115 or the data library system 100 offline lengthens the time required to switch library managers and slows data processing functions. Data ~~Library-library~~ functions would be enhanced if library managers could be switched without taking storage devices 115 or the data library system 100 offline.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

A system administrator directs a transition manager module to switch library management functions from the first library manager to a second library manager. In one embodiment, the transition manager module resides in a device controller. In an alternate embodiment, the transition ~~manger-manager~~ module is distributed throughout the library management system. The transition manager module may notify a host computer that a library manager transition has commenced and that no new data transaction commands will be accepted. The first library manager may process previously accepted data transaction commands during the library manager transition.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 3 is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of a library management system 300 of the present invention. The system 300 includes one or more host computers 105, a transition manager module 320, a device controller 120, one or more library ~~mangers-managers~~ 110, and one or more storage devices 115. The transition manager module 320 may be located within the device controller 120 or may be implemented independent thereof. The library management system 300 is configured to retrieve and store data. The system 300 is also configured to conduct a library manager transition.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

The transition manager module 320 receives a directive from the system administrator to switch library management functions from a first library manager 110a to a second library manager 110b. The transition manager module 320 suspends the first library manager 110a from accepting new data transaction commands, but maintains the storage devices 115 online. Storage devices 115 may continue to complete data transaction commands executed by the first library ~~manger-manager~~ 110a. In one embodiment, the transition manager module 320 directs the first library manager 110a to execute previously accepted data transaction commands in the command queue. In an alternate embodiment, the transition manager module 320 transfers previously accepted data transaction commands from the first library ~~manger-manager~~ 110a to the second library manager 110b.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

In an alternate embodiment, communications module 410 receives a timeout directive from the system administrator. The communications module 410 communicates the timeout directive to the timing module 415 and the control module 405. The timing module 415 may begin timing a timeout period in response to a timeout directive. In one embodiment, the timeout period is specified by the system administrator. The timeout period may also be predetermined. The timing module 415 notifies the control module 405 when the timeout period completes. The control module 405 may terminate the execution of previously accepted data transaction commands by the first library manager 110a in response to notification that the timeout period has been completed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

The notify host step 510 communicates to the host computer 105 that the data library will be unavailable, and that new data transaction commands will not be accepted. The reject new data commands step 515 rejects new data transaction commands directing access to data in the storage devices 115. The process data commands step 520 executes previously accepted data transaction commands. In one embodiment, accepted data transaction commands are stored ~~are stored~~ in a command queue.

Please replace the abstract with the amended abstract on the following page: